

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for milking animals, especially cows, said method comprising the steps of:
 - a) stimulating the udder of the animal by sequentially stimulating the teats of the animal, as a way to stimulate the udder with pulsate pressure in milking cup gaps; and
 - b) ~~pulsating pressure in a milking cup gap so as to effect each sequential stimulation of the teats; and~~
 - eb) milking the stimulated teats;wherein a phase without any stimulation occurs between the stimulating step (a) and the milking step (b).
2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein only single teats are stimulated successively.
3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein a phase without any stimulation occurs between the stimulation phases of two different teats.
4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at the end of a stimulation phase of a teat, a stimulation phase of another teat occurs.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein before the sequential stimulation of a single teat, the udder receives a pre-stimulation.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein during the step of sequentially stimulating the teats, the intensity of the sequential stimulation decreases during the milking procedure.

7. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 6, wherein the intensity of the sequential stimulation during the milking procedure decreases continuously.

8. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 6, wherein the intensity of the sequential stimulation during the milking procedure decreases discontinuously.

9. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 5, wherein the milk flow or a relevant reference number is either measured or determined during the milking procedure, and the intensity of the sequential stimulation is changed based on the milk flow or the relevant reference number.

10. (Withdrawn) A method for milking animals, especially cows, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) sequentially stimulating the teats of the animal by a machine, as a way to stimulate the udder; and
- b) milking the stimulated teats, wherein the intensity of the sequential stimulation decreases continuously during the milking procedure.

11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 10, wherein only single teats are stimulated successively.

12. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 11, wherein a phase without any stimulation occurs between the stimulation phases of two different teats.

13. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 10, wherein at the end of a stimulation phase of a teat, a stimulation phase of another teat occurs.

14. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 10, wherein before the sequential stimulation of a single teat, the udder receives a pre-stimulation.

15. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, wherein the milk flow or a relevant reference number is either measured or determined during the milking procedure, and the

intensity of the sequential stimulation is changed based on the milk flow or the relevant reference number.

16. (Withdrawn) A method for milking animals, especially cows, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) sequentially stimulating the teats of the animal by a machine, as a way to stimulate the udder; and
- b) milking the stimulated teats, wherein the intensity of the sequential stimulation decreases discontinuously during the milking procedure.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16, wherein only single teats are stimulated successively.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, wherein a phase without any stimulation occurs between the stimulation phases of two different teats.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, wherein at the end of a stimulation phase of a teat, a stimulation phase of another teat occurs.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16, wherein before the sequential stimulation of a single teat, the udder receives a pre-stimulation.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, wherein the milk flow or a relevant reference number is either measured or determined during the milking procedure, and the intensity of the sequential stimulation is changed based on the milk flow or the relevant reference number.

22. (Withdrawn) A method for milking animals, especially cows, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) pulsating pressure in a first milking cup gap so as to effect a stimulation of a first teat;
- b) milking the stimulated first teat;
- c) pulsating pressure in at least one additional milking cup gap so as to effect a stimulation of at least one additional teat;
- d) milking the stimulated at least one additional teat; and
- f) performing steps a) through d) sequentially as a way to stimulate the udder.

23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 22, wherein only single teats are stimulated successively.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein a phase without any stimulation occurs between the stimulation phases of two different teats.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 22, wherein at the end of a stimulation phase of a teat, a stimulation phase of another teat occurs.

26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 22, wherein before the sequential stimulation of a single teat, the udder receives a pre-stimulation.

27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 22, wherein during the step of sequentially stimulating the teats, the intensity of the sequential stimulation decreases during the milking procedure.

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, wherein the intensity of the sequential stimulation during the milking procedure decreases continuously.

29. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, wherein the intensity of the sequential stimulation during the milking procedure decreases discontinuously.

30. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26, wherein the milk flow or a relevant reference number is either measured or determined during the milking procedure, and the intensity of the sequential stimulation is changed based on the milk flow or the relevant reference number.